

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 08274 270059Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SS-15 /027 W
-----001712 270114Z /62R
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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1822

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 8274

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, ETRD, IN
SUBJECT: SALE OF BURROUGHS COMPUTER SYSTEM TO HYDERABAD DEFENSE
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT LAB (DRDL)

REF: STATE 130671

1. IN COURSE OF MAY 25 CONVERSATION WITH MEA JOINT
SECRETARY (AMERICAS) ASRANI, DCM RAISED QUESTION
OF STATEMENT REQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH EXPORT OF
BURROUGHS COMPUTER SYSTEM. ASRANI WAS FAMILIAR WITH
HISTORY OF BURROUGHS' EXPORT APPLICATION, HAVING BEEN
APPROACHED BY BURROUGHS FOR ASSISTANCE WHEN HE WAS SERVING
AS INDIAN CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW YORK.

2. ASRANI SAID DIXIT HAD TRANSMITTED DUBS LETTER TO MEA
WHERE REACTION HAD BEEN EMOTIONAL AND STRONGLY ADVERSE,
E.G. "HOW CAN THEY DEMAND THIS OF US WHEN PM HAS PLEDGED
NOT TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR WEAPONS?" ACCORDING TO ASRANI
DECISION NOT TO ACQUIESCE IN STATEMENT WAS TAKEN BY VELLODI.

3. IT WAS ASRANI'S PERSONAL VIEW, HOWEVER, THAT THE
IDEA OF A STATEMENT MIGHT SUCCESSFULLY BE REVIVED. HE
WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED TO KNOW IF COUNTRIES LIKE
JAPAN OR THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WERE ASKED TO
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SUBMIT SUCH STATEMENTS. ALSO, HE WONDERED IF STATEMENT
COULD BE SOFTENED SO AS TO MAKE IT LESS LEGALISTIC AND
REPETITIVE.

4. FOR OUR OWN INFORMATION, AND FOR POSSIBLE USE IN
FURTHER TALKS WITH MEA ON THIS SUBJECT, IT WOULD BE
HELPFUL TO KNOW WHICH COUNTRIES HAVE AGREED TO FURNISH

SUCH STATEMENTS. INDIANS ARE VERY SENSITIVE TO ANY INDICATIONS THAT THEY ARE BEING TREATED MORE RIGOROUSLY THAN OTHER NATIONS ON NUCLEAR ISSUES.

5. WOULD OUR PURPOSES BE SERVED BY A SIMPLIFIED STATEMENT ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES: "IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE COMPUTER WILL NOT BE USED IN ANY WAY TO DEVELOP NUCLEAR WEAPONS NOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS DELIVERY SYSTEMS."
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 26 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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